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CONSTITUTION

AND

BY- LAWS

**Wisconsin State Horticultural
Society**

As Amended January 10th, 1919



EBL Dec. 24, 20.2

SB21
W7

The Wisconsin State Horticultural Society

Organized 1865

Incorporated 1871

Officers and Executive Committee for 1865

President: B. F. HOPKINS.

Vice Presidents: One from each county named.

Secretary: J. C. PLUMB.

Treasurer: F. C. CURTIS.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GEO. J. KELLOGG

L. P. CHANDLER

HISTORICAL OUTLINE.

In November, 1853, a small group of Wisconsin fruit growers met in Whitewater and organized the Wisconsin Fruit Growers Association. According to the scant records available this association flourished until the beginning of the Civil war.

September 29th, 1865, a similar group which had been in attendance at the state fair held in Janesville met and organized the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society. The first officers were: President, B. F. Hopkins; vice presidents, one in each county named; secretary J. C. Plumb; treasurer, F. C. Curtis; executive committee, Geo. J. Kellogg and L. P. Chandler.

For several years annual meetings were held at the same time and place as the meetings of the Agricultural Society and the proceedings printed in one volume.

In 1871 the society was granted a charter by the legislature and provision made for the publication of the reports of the society in a separate volume. From that time to the present the society has been a ward of the state, receiving state aid in return for which it has rendered a distinct service through the collection and dissemination of information on fruits, flowers and vegetables.

The society during its early years confined its efforts largely to the testing and selection of varieties suitable to our climate, an extremely important and valuable work.

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The activities of the society have broadened from decade to decade through its more than half century of existence until it is now recognized as an important factor in the state's progress and as one of the most progressive and active organizations of the kind in the United States.

In 1898 the society established at Wausau a so-called "trial" orchard or station for the purpose of determining what varieties of tree fruits were best adapted to the then recently cut over lands of central Wisconsin. So successful was this work and so great the demand that during the following 12 years twelve other trial orchards were established, all proving of great value.

In 1904 the society departed from the plan followed by practically all horticultural societies of paying the secretary merely a nominal salary for nominal services and provided funds for a full time secretary and a central, permanent office. Probably no other step has exerted greater influence on the society than this.

From 1896 to 1901 the society published a monthly journal, The Wisconsin Horticulturist. The records fail to show why it was discontinued.

From 1906 to 1910 Bulletins were published at irregular intervals, nineteen in all, of quarto size ranging from 8 to 32 pages.

September, 1910, marked the birth of Wisconsin Horticulture a 16 page monthly journal sent to members and exchanges only. The membership fees and advertising cover the expense of

publication, leaving a handsome margin of profit.

Early records show that the society was active in promoting horticultural exhibits at the state fair and it appears that close relations existed between the society and the fair management until the early eighties when a break occurred. Beginning with the 1904 state fair and to the present the society has again taken an active part in these exhibitions, expending in one year as high as one thousand dollars of its funds for an exhibit of fruit.

Relations with the Horticultural Department of the Agricultural College have been strengthened and the society and the department now work in perfect harmony.

In this brief outline much has necessarily been omitted; no mention has been made of the spirit, the soul, of the organization. A perusal of the reports of the society leaves the impression that the courage and tenacity of purpose of that little group of sturdy pioneers who met in Whitewater in 1853 has been transmitted to their followers and has been our guiding spirit until the present day. As out of the oaken glades, rich bottom lands and rolling clay terranes of our state there has been developed one of the richest agricultural domains in the world, so have the men and women who have had the love of fruit and flowers in their hearts kept pace through a half century and more with the progress of events and have held fast to the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society.

Frederic Cranefield, Secretary.

Madison, Wis., January 15th, 1919.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Society shall be known as "The Wisconsin State Horticultural Society" and its location shall be at the city of Madison, Dane county, Wisconsin, where its principal office shall be maintained.

Article 2. The object of this Society shall be the advancement of the art and science of horticulture throughout the state.

Article 3. This Society is formed without capital stock.

Article 4. This Society shall consist of life members, annual members, honorary life members, and honorary annual members. The fee for membership shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

Honorary annual members may, by vote, be elected and invited to participate in the proceedings of the Society. Honorary life members shall be elected by vote of the Society, and shall be distinguished for special merit in horticultural and kindred sciences, or shall confer some particular benefit upon the Society.

Article 5. The general officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer to be known here-in-after as Secretary, and an Executive Committee, consisting of the foregoing officers and one additional member from each congressional district, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum at any of its meetings.

The officers aforesaid, except the Secretary, shall be elected, by ballot, at the annual meeting, and shall hold office for one year thereafter and until their respective successors are elected. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee at its annual meeting after the election of officers and shall hold office for one year thereafter or until his successor is appointed.

Article 6. The principal duties of the general officers shall be as follows:

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee, shall exercise a general supervision and control of the business and affairs of the Society, and shall sign all leases, deeds and instruments for the transfer, conveyance or assignment of the corporate property, and all contracts, papers and instruments necessary or convenient in the transaction of the business of the Society, and when necessary, acknowledge the same.

The Vice President shall act as President in case of the absence, disability or removal of the President.

The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Society and keep a record of the business and of the proceedings at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee; he shall keep, safely and systematically, all books, records, papers and documents belonging or pertaining to the Society or the business thereof; he shall countersign all deeds, leases and conveyances, and, when necessary, acknowledge the same.

He shall receive and safely keep all moneys, notes, securities and property of the Society, which may come into his hands and shall pay out or dispose of the same only upon such terms and conditions as the Executive Committee may direct or the by-laws provide. He shall keep a correct account of all moneys received and disbursed and shall render such account of the same as shall be required by the Executive Committee or prescribed in the by-laws. And he shall execute a bond to the Society, in such sum, and with such sureties, as the Executive Committee shall approve, conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties, and for the payment and delivery to his successor of all the moneys and property of the Society in his hands or under his control; which bond when approved shall be filed with the President.

The said officers shall perform such other or additional duties as may be required and any of the duties and powers of said officers may be performed or exercised, as far as is lawful, by such other officers, persons or committees as the Executive Committee may provide.

Article 7. The members of the Executive Committee from the several congressional districts shall be chosen by the delegates of their respective county or local societies present at the annual meeting of this Society, or in case of the absence of delegates from such societies or in case of failure to elect, such members shall be chosen from among the members of this Society present from such districts. But if any district is not represented the vacancy

shall be filled by vote of the members of this Society present at the annual meeting.

Article 8. The term "county and local horticultural societies" shall include any organization that shall have for its object the advancement of the interests of its members in the growing or sale of horticultural crops: provided that such society acts by authority of a regularly adopted constitution and makes an annual report to the Secretary of the state society.

Article 9. The Society shall hold its annual meeting for the election of officers, exhibition of fruits, and discussions, in the city of Madison, Wisconsin. Other meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee may direct.

Article 10. Only persons holding memberships according to the regulations of the Society shall be members of it.

Article 11. This Constitution, with the accompanying By-Laws, may be amended, at any regular meeting of this Society by a two-thirds vote of the members present; provided that such amendment is presented in writing.

RULES AND BY-LAWS.

Article I.—Membership.

Sec. 1. The Secretary shall decide upon all applications for membership in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society.

Sec. 2. Any member maliciously or intentionally injuring or working in opposition to the Society or its purposes in promoting horticulture may upon return of his membership fee be summarily expelled.

Article II.—Meetings.

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee may fix the time and place for holding the annual meeting of the Society, if the last meeting thereof failed to do so and may call such meeting by giving at least thirty days' notice to each member. Such notice shall be given by the Secretary, by mailing the same, postage prepaid, to each member at his last known address.

Sec. 2. Notice of a special meeting shall be mailed to each member at his last known address by the Secretary at least six days before such meeting is to be held. Such notice shall state the business to be transacted and the date, hour and place of meeting, and no business other than that stated in the notice shall be considered at such meeting.

Article III.—Duties of Officers—The President.

Sec. 1. The President shall preside at all

meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee; he shall, with the advice of the Secretary, call all meetings of the Society if the Executive Committee fail so to do; he shall appoint the delegates to the meetings of the other State Horticultural Societies; he shall have a general supervision of the business and affairs of the Society, and he shall deliver an annual address upon some subject connected with horticulture.

Sec. 2. He shall sign and acknowledge all leases, deeds, and instruments for the conveyance or transfer of the Society's property; and all other contracts, papers and instruments necessary or convenient in transacting its business.

Sec. 3. In case of the absence from any cause of both the President and Vice President the members present, if a quorum, shall elect one of their number temporary president.

Article IV.—The Secretary.

Sec. 1. The Secretary shall attend to all the correspondence of the Society, he shall keep a correct and complete record of the business and of the proceedings at all meetings of the members and of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. He shall superintend the publication of the Reports of the Transactions of the Society and publish or cause to be published such special bulletins on timely and appropriate subjects and such special reports of the condition

and results of experimental work in the Trial Orchards and Trial Stations as the Board of Managers may direct.

Sec. 3. He shall present a detailed report of the affairs of the Society at its annual meeting. He shall endeavor to secure reports from the various committees, and from local societies, of the condition and progress of horticulture throughout the state and report the same to the Society. It shall be his duty to make a report to the Governor of the State of the transaction of the Society according to the provisions of the statutes for state reports.

Sec. 4. He shall be superintendent of all Trial Orchards and Trial Stations. In that capacity he shall supervise the planting and cultivation of, and exercise general control over the same, subject to the directions of the Trial Orchard Committee.

Sec. 5. He shall engross in the general record book of the Society a true copy of the Constitution, Rules and By-Laws, and all amendments thereto and all resolutions of the Society and of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 6. He shall keep a record book in which shall be entered the names of all members of the Society from its organization, the place of residence, time of acquiring membership, and time of cessation of same.

Sec. 7. He shall notify all persons elected to office within ten days thereafter, if such persons were not present at the election.

Sec. 8. He shall keep a book in which a correct list of the property of the Society shall be entered. He shall draw all orders, checks, etc., ordered by the Executive Committee or Board of Managers and countersign the same when signed by the President.

Sec. 9. He shall keep a stub or record of all orders, checks, etc., drawn and delivered, showing the date and amount thereof and to whom and for what purpose the same was issued.

Sec. 10. He shall receive all fees for membership, and give proper receipts for the same.

Sec. 11. He shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, execute a bond to the Society in such sum and with such sureties as the Executive Committee may direct, conditioned as provided in the Constitution.

Sec. 12. He shall receive and be responsible for the safe keeping of all money, notes, securities, credits, etc., of any and every nature, belonging to the Society which shall come into his hands.

Sec. 13. He shall keep proper books of account and a true and complete record of all business transacted by him for the Society; he shall keep proper vouchers for all money disbursed and shall render such accounts and statements of the moneys received, disbursed and on hand, and generally of all matters pertaining to his office as the Executive Committee may require or the By-Laws direct.

Sec. 14. He shall disburse the money of the Society only on the written order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary, and shall

make an annual report of the receipts and disbursements and furnish the President with a copy of the same on or before the first day of the annual meeting.

Article V.—The Executive Committee.

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall have the general care and management of the property, affairs, and business of the Society, and a majority of its members shall constitute a quorum. The President and Secretary of the Society shall be President and Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. Meetings of the Committee may be called by the President, the Secretary, or by the Secretary on the written request of five of its members.

Sec. 3. They shall fix the amount of the Secretary's bond, the number of his sureties and approve the same. They may require any other officer, agent, or employee of the Society to execute a bond and prescribe the amount and conditions thereof, and approve the same.

Sec. 4. They may prescribe such salary or compensation for any officer, agent, or employee of the Society as they may deem proper, but not for a longer term than until the next annual meeting of the members, nor shall any officer of the Society be entitled to or receive any benefit, salary or compensation for, on account of, or during the time that he may be absent beyond the boundaries of the state unless such absence was at the request and on behalf of said Society.

Sec. 5. The Executive Committee shall have the power to remove any officer for official misconduct or neglect of the duties of his office. In case of vacancy in any office, either by resignation, removal or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the said Committee, but such person shall hold office only for the unexpired portion of the term.

Sec. 6. The Executive Committee shall make such rules and regulations for the conduct of the business of the Society, not inconsistent with law, the Constitution, or the Rules and By-Laws, as they shall deem expedient and for the best interests of the Society.

Article VI.—Committees.

Sec. 1. The President, Vice President and Secretary shall constitute a Board of Managers which may conduct any business deemed necessary for the Society in the absence of the Executive Committee. All bills against the Society must be audited by the Board of Managers before being paid.

Sec. 2. Regular meetings of the Board of Managers shall be held bi-monthly to audit accounts and transact other business; special meetings may be called by any member of the Board.

Sec. 3. The President shall annually appoint a Committee on Finance of three members, and one member of the committee on Trial Orchards and Trial Stations, of three members, to be appointed for a term of 3 years, and such other committees as may from time to time be necessary.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to settle with the Secretary and to examine and report upon all bills and claims against the Society which may have been presented and referred to them, provided, however, that no member of the Executive Committee shall be a member of the Finance Committee aforesaid.

Sec. 5. The Trial Orchard Committee shall have general control of the locating, planting and care of all Trial Orchards and Trial Stations, and may visit collectively each orchard and station once each year or oftener if deemed necessary. Meetings of the Committee may be called at any time by the President of the Society or by the Superintendent of Trial Orchards.

Article VII.—Miscellaneous.

Sec. 1. The foregoing Rules and By-Laws shall take effect and be in force from the date of their adoption.

THE WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Officers and Executive Committee, 1919

OFFICERS.

President: N. A. RASMUSSEN, Oshkosh.

Vice President: JOHN A. HAYS, Gays Mills.

Secretary-Treasurer: FREDERIC CRANEFIELD,
Madison.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

N. A. Rasmussen.....	Ex-Officio
J. A. Hays.....	Ex-Officio
F. Cranefield.....	Ex-Officio
1st Dist., A. Martini.....	Lake Geneva
2nd Dist., R. J. Coe.....	Ft. Atkinson
3rd Dist., E. L. Roloff.....	Madison
4th Dist., A. Leidiger.....	Milwaukee
5th Dist., Jas. Livingstone.....	Milwaukee
6th Dist., J. W. Roe.....	Oshkosh
7th Dist., Wm. Toole, Sr.....	Baraboo
8th Dist., C. M. Secker.....	Tomah
9th Dist., L. E. Birmingham.....	Sturgeon Bay
10th Dist., F. T. Brunk.....	Eau Claire
11th Dist., Irving Smith.....	Bayfield

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

N. A. Rasmussen

F. Cranefield

J. A. Hays





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